

CLAIMS:

1. A method of coding a digital image comprising macroblocks in a binary data stream, the method comprising:

- an estimation step, for macroblocks, of a capacity to be reconstructed via an error concealment method,

5 - a decision step for macroblocks to be excluded from the coding, a decision to exclude a macroblock from coding being made on the basis of the capacity of such macroblock to be reconstructed,
characterized in that it also includes a step of inserting a resynchronization marker into the binary data stream after the exclusion of one or more macroblocks.

10 2. A coding method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the decision step includes a substep of evaluation of the reduction of the binary data stream effected by exclusion of the macroblocks, the decision to exclude macroblocks being made as a function of a reduction of the binary data stream resulting from such exclusion.

15 3. A coding method as claimed in one of the claims 1 and 2, characterized in that it includes a calculation step of a binary data stream output rate, the decision to exclude macroblocks being made on the basis of this binary data stream output rate.

20 4. A coder for the purpose of coding a digital image comprising macroblocks in a binary data stream, comprising

- an estimation module for the purpose of estimating a capacity of macroblocks to be reconstructed by an error concealment method,

25 - a decision module intended to decide upon an exclusion of the coding for macroblocks, a decision to exclude a macroblock being made on the basis of the capacity of said macroblock to be reconstructed,
characterized in that it also includes a module for inserting a resynchronization marker in the binary data stream following the exclusion of one or more macroblocks.

5. A coding method as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that it includes one or more modules for the purpose of carrying out the characteristic steps of one of the claims 2 and 3.

5 6. A binary data stream containing coded data of a digital image including macroblocks, said binary data stream being such that the macroblocks are not coded in the binary data stream in at least one location of the binary data stream, said uncoded macroblocks having a capacity to be reconstructed by an error concealment method, characterized in that a resynchronization marker is present in the binary data stream at the
10 point where macroblocks are not coded.

7. A method of decoding a binary data stream containing coded data of a digital image including macroblocks, said binary data stream containing resynchronization markers at regular intervals, including:

15 - a detection step for uncoded macroblocks in at least one location of the binary data stream,
- an error concealment step notably activated for uncoded macroblocks which are detected in the detection step,
characterized in that the detection step for uncoded macroblocks includes a detection substep
20 for the purpose of detecting irregular intervals between the resynchronization markers.

8. A decoder for decoding a binary data stream containing coded data of a digital image comprising macroblocks, including:

25 - a detection module for detecting uncoded macroblocks in at least one location of the binary data stream,
- an error concealment module intended to be notably activated for the uncoded macroblocks that are detected by the detection module,
characterized in that the detection module for uncoded macroblocks includes a detection submodule for the purpose of detecting irregular intervals between the resynchronization
30 markers.

9. A „computer program“ product for a coder comprising a series of functions and a collective resource that the functions access, characterized in that the „computer

program“ product includes a set of instructions which, when loaded into such a coder, run the method claimed in one of the claims 1 to 3 with respect to the coder.

10. A „computer program“ product for a decoder comprising a series of functions
5 and a collective resource that the functions access, characterized in that the „computer
program“ product includes a set of instructions which, when loaded into such a decoder, run
the method as claimed in claim 7 with respect to the decoder.